

LAKE CHEBACCO (Hamilton / Essex)

General Information:

This fertile, 209-acre lake has a maximum depth of 22 feet. Aquatic vegetation is abundant around the entire shoreline out to a depth of about 10 feet, limited by a transparency of six feet. The shoreline is heavily developed, limiting opportunities for shorefishing and reducing aesthetic appeal.

Access is provided by a Public Access Board surfaced ramp managed by the Division of Forests and Parks, but its use is primarily limited to car top boats and canoes. There is parking space for approximately 15 vehicles.

Fish Populations:

The lake was last surveyed in 1978, at which time largemouth bass, brown bullhead and yellow perch dominated a field of 11 species. Other species present included chain pickerel, black crappie, white perch and pumpkinseed sunfish. This lake supports an alewife run, which provides abundant forage for many of the other species present.

Fishing:

There is formidable boat traffic on this lake due to its heavy usage by shoreline residents. However, thanks to numerous coves and heavy shoreline weed growth, fishermen can usually find a selection of secluded, relatively quiet areas to pursue largemouths and panfish. Ice fishing should also be good. As with any urban boat ramp, anglers should consider the fact that vehicles left unattended after dark are inviting targets for theft or vandalism.

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